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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /156 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8925
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2739

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR UN GW
SUBJ: AF CONCERNS OVER FRG ENTRY

REF: BONN 10796

1. FOLLOWING RECENT COMMENTS TO US BY BOUAYAD (ALGERIA) AND TADESSE (ETHIOPIA), WE HAVE CONTACTED PLEUGER, OF GERMAN OBSERVER MISSION, TO FEEL HIM OUT OVER HOW SERIOUS GERMANS CONSIDER THREAT OF AF VOTE TO BLOCK FRG ENTRY INTO UN. MISOFF DESCRIBED ALGERIAN OPPOSITION AS NOT SURPRISING WHEN CONSIDERED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF EARLIER GUINEAN WORDS IN SC, STEMMING FROM ALLEGED RFG ROLE IN ""INVASION"", AND CRITICAL STATEMENTS MADE BY OGBU (NIGERIA) IN HIS CAPACITY AS HEAD OF APARTHEID COMITE. TADESSE'S REMARKS, HOWEVER, WERE FIRST WE HAD HEARD FROM MODERATE WING AND, FOR THAT REASON, WE WISHED TO BRING THEM TO GERMANS' ATTENTION.

2. PURSUANT TO OUR INQUIRY OF HIM, TADESSE TOLD US LAST WEEK THAT HE BELIEVES GENERAL AF CONCERN TO BE A GENUINE ONE, AND OPINED THAT ""MERE IDEALISTIC STATEMENTS"" ON BONN'S PART WOULD NOT ASSUAGE AFRICAN ANXIETIES. TADESSE SUGGESTED AS ONE FORMULA POSSIBLY ACCEPTABLE TO AFS THAT FRG EXPRESS ITS WILLING-NESS A) TO EXAMINE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWING CONSULAR REPRESEN-
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TATION FROM WINDHOEK AND B) TO RE-EXAMINE REJECTION OF ICJ

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DECISION ON SOUTH WEST AFRICA.

3. PLEUGER SAID THAT HE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED OUR INTEREST. MISOFF OBSERVED THAT AMB SCHAUFELE ALSO HAD DISCUSSED QUESTION IN BONN (REFTEL). CONCERNING TADESSE'S SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS, PLEUGER SAID THAT BONN ALREADY HAD DECIDED AGAINST ANY RE-CONSIDERATION OF ITS PRESENCE IN WINDHOEK, GIVEN THE LARGE NUMBER OF GERMAN CITIZENS THEY MUST PROTECT IN NAMIBIA. PLEUGER ADDED THAT BONN WAS NOW CONVINCED THAT A GERMAN CONSULATE IN WINDHOEK ALSO IS IMPORTANT IN THAT IT IS ""THE ONLY MISSION SOLELY ACCREDITED TO NAMIBIA AS AN INDEPENDENT ENTITY."" HE ADDED, PARENTHETICALLY, THAT THE TIMING WAS TOO LATE, ANYWAY, FOR THE FRG TO ACHIEVE ANY MEANINGFUL INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL EFFECT BY CLOSING THAT OFFICE.

4. PLEUGER SAID THAT INITIAL FRG EFFORTS WILL BE AIMED AT TRYING TO PAIR GUINEAN OPPOSITION TO THE FRG WITH POSSIBLE ISRAELI OPPOSITION TO GDR ENTRY, CONCEIVABLY NULLIFYING BOTH. PLEUGER ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS APPRAISAL MAY BE OVERLY OPTIMISTIC AND IN LIGHT OF OUR INFORMATION, HIS MISSION WOULD CONSIDER MAKING VARIOUS APPROACHES TO MODERATE AFRICANS. FRG ALSO HAS DECIDED TO RECEIVE OGBU AND GIVE HIM RED CARPET TREATMENT IN GERMANY.

5. COMMENT. WHILE WE HASTEN TO AVOID CREATING ANY UNDUE ANXIETY, BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON CURRENT OBJECTIONS EXISTING AMONG AFS TO AUTOMATIC ENTRY OF FRG INTO UN THIS FALL. GERMANS HERE DO NOT APPEAR OVERLY CONCERNED OVER OPPOSITION, NOR DO WE BELIEVE THAT USG SHOULD BE AT THIS JUNCTURE. WHILE AFRICAN PROPENSITY TO STAMPEDE IS WELL KNOWN, LIKELIHOOD OF THEIR MARSHALLING 41 NAYS ON THIS QUESTION STILL SEEMS REMOTE. MANY AFS HAVE EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH FRG AND ARE ANXIOUS TO MAIN-TAIN THEM, AS WELL AS ATTENDANT FLOW OF AID THEREFROM. OTHER AFS, POSSIBLY REALIZING THAT GDR RECOGNITION BROUGHT LITTLE INCREASE IN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM PANKOW, MAY NOW BE EXERCISING THIS PRESSURE, INTER ALIA, IN HOPE THAT BONN WILL UP THE ANTE OF DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE TO THEM.
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